

[Mrs. Ida Bates]

[Personal narrative?] (Dakota City) [?] - 241 - DAK DUP

FORM A Circumstances of Interview

NAME OF WORKER Edna B Pearson ADDRESS 108 E 18 So Sioux

DATE November 22, 1938 SUBJECT Interview No. 26

1. Name and address of informant Mrs. Ida Bates, Dakota City RFD
2. Date and time of interview October 22, 1938, 9 PM
3. Place of interview at her home near Dakota City
4. Name and address of person, if any, who put you in touch with informant No one
5. Name and address of person, if any, accompanying you No one
6. Description of room, house, surroundings, etc.

The description of Mrs. Bates' home is, of course, the same as that given for Mr. Bates' home, viz :

The farm where informant lives has always been in her husband's family and it certainly shows that it has been well taken care of, the buildings kept repaired and painted, and the grounds kept in nice shape. The house is white, rather rambling, and a very nice farm home, ample outbuildings. C15 - 2/27/41 - Nebraska

FORM B Personal History of Informant

Library of Congress

NAME OF WORKER Edna B Pearson ADDRESS 108 E. 18 So Sioux

DATE November 22, 1938 SUBJECT Interview No. 26

NAME AND ADDRESS OF INFORMANT Mrs. George [?] (Ida) Bates Dakota City, RFD

1. Ancestry Father Fred Beermann Mother Anna H. Armbrecht Beermann
2. Place and date of birth Dakota County, 1872
3. Family Had no children but raised [-?] brother and sister, Glennard and Harriet Field
4. Place lived in, with dates Dakota County all her life
5. Education, with dates Had a good country school education
6. Occupations and accomplishments, with dates Housewife
7. Special skills and interests Homemaking
8. Community and religious activities Member Lutheran Church Women's Club and farm women's organizations
9. Description of informant Is rather a large woman, blue eyes, very heavy hair, very little gray, rather distant at first but is a very lovely pleasant and friendly woman as one becomes acquainted with her; she is certainly very young looking for her age.
10. Other points gained in interview Mrs. Bates is, like her husband, a credit to the community and very well liked and respected by everyone and is a wonderfully agreeable and accommodating woman.

FORM C Text of Interview (Unedited)

Library of Congress

NAME OF WORKER Edna B Pearson ADDRESS 108 E 18 So Sioux

DATE November 22, 1938 SUBJECT Interview No. 26

NAME AND ADDRESS OF INFORMANT Mrs. George W. (Ida) Bates Dakota City, RFD

My father, Fred Beermann, came to Elgin, Illinois, when he was nineteen years old, from Germany. Went to school there three years. Came to Dakota County in 1870 and the fore part of 1872 was married to Hanna anna H. Ambrecht. Had three sons, Charley, Fred and Erick and three daughters, myself, Etta and Lillie.

My folks kept house for James A. Fishers while they were on a trip to New York State and I was born the winter of 1872. My father always farmed heavy, had lots of men work for him and had big crops.

I don't remember much about hardships and don't remember much about the way they had to got along when I was small; guess we just took everything [now?] as it came along.

I have an old autograph album that I will let you take when I find it and you can copy some of the verses, if you like. We used to have singing school and here are a few of the songs we used to sing:

OLD TUBAL CAIN Old Tubal Cain was a man of might, In the days when the earth was young, By the fierce red light, of the forge so bright, Heavy strokes on his anvil rung.

Chorus: Hurrah, hurrah for Tubal Cain, that mighty man of old: Hurrah, hurrah for sword and spear, he made for warriors bold

(Repeat) Up-lifted high was his brawny hand, And the glow of the flames was clear, And the sparks rushed out in a scarlet glow, As he worked on the sword and spear.

Chorus:

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OLD TUBAL CAIN (Continued) And he sang hurrah for my handy work, Hurrah for the spear and sword; Hurrah for the hand that shall wield them well, For be shall be king and lord.

Chorus:

WHERE IS YOUR BOY TONIGHT? Life is teeming with evil snares, The gates of sin are wide The rosy fingers of pleasure wave And beckon the young inside. Man of the world with open purse, Seeking your own delight, Pause [ere?] reason is wholly gone, W Where is your boy tonight?

Chorus: Where, O where is your boy tonight? Where is your boy tonight? Pause ere reason in wholly gone, Where is your boy tonight? (Repeat) Sirens are singing on ev'ry hand Luring the ear of youth, Gilded falsehood with silver notes Drowneth the voice. of truth, Dainty lady in costly robes, Your parlors gleam with lights Ease and beauty your senses steep, Where in your boy tonight?

Chorus: Tempting whispers of royal spoil, Flatter the youthful soul

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NAME AND ADDRESS OF INFORMANT Mrs. George W. Bates (Ida) Bates Dakota City,
RFD

WHERE IS YOUR BOY TONIGHT? (Continued) Eagerly entering into life, Restive of all
control, Needs are many and duties stern, Crowd on the weary sight, Father buried in
business cares, Where is your boy tonight?

Chorus: Turn his feet from evil paths E'er they have entered in, Keep him unspotted while
yet you may, Earth in so stained with sin Ere he has learned to follow wrong, Teach him to
follow right, [?] Watch, ere watching in wholly vain, Where in your boy tonight?

Chorus:

DON't GO OUT TONIGHT, MY DARLING Don't go out tonight, my darling, Do not leave
me here alone, Stay at home with me, my darling, I am lonely when you're gone, Though
the wine-cup may be tempting, And your friends are full of glee I will do my best to cheer
you, Darling, won't you stay with me?

Chorus: Don't go out tonight, my darling, do not go, Do not leave me here alone, all alone,
Stay at home tonight, my darling, I am lonely when you're gone. (Repeat) FORM C Text of
Interview (Unedited)

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DON't GO OUT TONIGHT; MY DARLING (Continued) O my darling, do not leave me, For
my heart is fill'd with fear, Stay at home tonight, my darling, Let me feel your presence

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near; O my God, he's gone and left me, With a curse upon his lips, Who can tell how much
I suffer From the accurs'd cup he drinks!

Chorus: Hear the tread of heavy footsteps, Hear that rap upon the door, They have bro't
me home my husband, There he lays upon the floor, No caress of mine can wake him, All
he craves is rum, more rum And the fondest hopes I cherished, All have faded one by one.